Crude oil pipeline explodes, killing two in Minn.

Explosion along Clearbrook pipeline

By Larry Oakes / StarTribune startribune.com updated 25 minutes ago

Two maintenance workers were unaccounted for after an explosion and fire this afternoon along a <u>crude oil</u> pipeline near the northern Minnesota town of Clearbrook.

The Clearwater County Sheriff's office reported that the explosion was reported about 3:50 p.m. at the Enbridge Energy pipeline about a mile south of Clearbrook.

Multiple rural fire departments responded, and residents within a mile radius were evacuated because of smoke.

Enbridge spokesman Larry Springer said a maintenance crew from Superior, Wis., was working on the pipeline at the time. Asked if any were injured or missing as reported by local authorities, he said: "We're trying to confirm that information and won't speculate about that for now." Springer said the crew was replacing a section of pipe that had developed a small leak. "It had been repaired with a sleeve, and we were removing it so that it could be analyzed," Springer said.

The sheriff's office reported that the explosion resulted in a "spill" from the pipeline that appeared to be "burning itself out," but was expected to burn through the night. Springer said the pipeline carries crude oil from Canada to Enbridge's Superior, Wis., terminal and storage facilities. He said the section will be explosion is part of the company's Lakehead pipeline system.

Little information was available about the two workers who were unaccounted for. Residents within close proximity have been evacuated.

The Associated Press contributed to this report, >/I>



Incident on Enbridge Pipeline

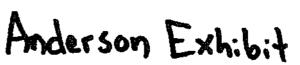
CALGARY, ALBERTA--(Marketwire - Nov. 28, 2007) - Enbridge Inc. (TSX:ENB) (NYSE:ENB) reports that at approximately 3:45 CST, November 28, 2007, an explosion and fire occurred on an Enbridge crude oil pipeline approximately three miles southeast of Enbridge's Clearbrook, Minnesota terminal. The extent of the damage and injuries is not yet confirmed.

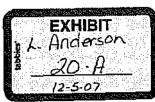
All Enbridge pipelines in the vicinity were immediately shut down and isolated and Enbridge emergency crews were dispatched to the site.

Enbridge has notified and is working with the appropriate authorities and emergency officials. The cause of the explosion has not been determined.

There is no estimate at this time on the restart of the lines.

Enbridge Inc. (www.enbridge.com) is a leader in energy transportation and distribution in North





America and internationally. As a transporter of energy, Enbridge operates, in Canada and the United States, the world's longest crude oil and liquids pipeline system. Enbridge also has international operations and a growing involvement in the natural gas transmission and midstream businesses. As a distributor of energy, Enbridge owns and operates Canada's largest natural gas distribution company, which provides distribution services in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and in New York State; and is developing a gas distribution system for the Province of New Brunswick. Enbridge is a Canadian company and its common shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange in Canada and on the New York Stock Exchange in the United States under the symbol ENB.

Oil pipeline explodes near Clearbrook--two workers unaccounted for



Two workers were unaccounted for Wednesday after an explosion and fire along a crude oil pipeline near this northern Minnesota town, authorities said.

The Clearwater County Sheriff's Department said emergency workers were responding to the scene of the Enbridge Energy explosion, which was reported at 3:51 p.m.

The blast and oil spill appeared to be self-contained and the ensuing fire was expected to burn itself out, according to the sheriff's department. The fire was expected to burn through the night.

Little information was available about the two workers who were unaccounted for.

Residents within close proximity have been evacuated.

In a news release posted on its Web site, Enbridge Energy said pipelines in the vicinity of the explosion were immediately shut down after the blast. The company said it hadn't confirmed any injuries and that the cause of the blast hadn't been determined.

Clearbrook is about 25 miles northwest of Bemidji.

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